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MAY 15 2006



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

ROBERT H. SHEMWEILL, CLERK  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

**SHREVEPORT DIVISION**

**GARY ANTHONY BAILEY, JR.**

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-2174-P**

**VERSUS**

**JUDGE STAGG**

**DEBRA G. SINCLAIR, ET AL.**

**MAGISTRATE JUDGE HORNSBY**

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

In accordance with the standing order of this Court, this matter was referred to the undersigned Magistrate Judge for review, report and recommendation.

**STATEMENT OF CLAIM**

Before the Court is a civil rights complaint filed in forma pauperis by pro se plaintiff Gary Anthony Bailey, Jr. ("Plaintiff"), pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. This complaint was received and filed in this Court on December 15, 2005. Plaintiff is incarcerated in the Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center in Minden, Louisiana. He claims court officers conspired to alter his criminal trial transcripts. He names court reporter Debra G. Sinclair, assistant district attorney Marcus Patillo, attorney Jack W. Slaid and attorney Rick Warren as defendants.

Plaintiff claims the transcripts he received from court reporter Debra G. Sinclair were not a true and correct copy of his criminal trial proceedings. He claims the Defendants fabricated the transcripts to benefit the State.

Accordingly, Plaintiff seeks monetary damages and a true and correct copy of his criminal trial transcripts.

## LAW AND ANALYSIS

Plaintiff is seeking monetary damages for an alleged harm caused by actions whose unlawfulness would render his conviction or sentence invalid. The United States Supreme Court held that in order to recover monetary damages for an allegedly unconstitutional conviction or sentence or for "harm caused by actions whose unlawfulness would render a conviction or sentence invalid," a prisoner must show that the conviction or sentence has been "reversed on direct appeal, expunged by executive order, declared invalid by a state tribunal authorized to make such determination, or called into question by a federal court's issuance of a writ of habeas." Heck v. Humphrey, 512 U.S. 477, 486-87, 114 S.Ct. 2364, 2372 (1994). Heck involved a civil rights claim brought by a state prisoner. The Court dismissed the Section 1983 suit until plaintiff could demonstrate that his conviction or sentence had been invalidated.

When a claim comes within the parameters of the Heck teachings, it is not cognizable under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 so long as the validity of the conviction or sentence has not been called into question as defined therein, which requires dismissal of claims not meeting its preconditions for suit. See Johnson v. McElveen, 101 F.3d 423, 424 (5th Cir. 1996).

Plaintiff is seeking monetary damages for civil rights violations under Section 1983; therefore, he must prove that his conviction or sentence has been invalidated. He has not met this precondition and his complaint must be dismissed until such time that he can demonstrate that his conviction or sentence has been invalidated.

## CONCLUSION

Because Plaintiff filed this proceeding in forma pauperis ("IFP"), if this Court finds Plaintiff's complaint to be frivolous, it may dismiss the complaint as such at any time, before or after service of process, and before or after answers have been filed. See 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e); Green v. McKaskle, 788 F.2d 1116, 1119 (5th Cir. 1986); Spears v. McCotter, 766 F.2d 179, 181 (5th Cir. 1985). District courts are vested with extremely broad discretion in making a determination of whether an IFP proceeding is frivolous and may dismiss a claim as frivolous if the IFP complaint lacks an arguable basis either in law or in fact. See Hicks v. Garner, 69 F.3d 22 (5th Cir. 1995); Booker v. Koonce, 2 F.3d 114 (5th Cir. 1993); Neitzke v. Williams, 490 U.S. 319, 109 S.Ct. 1827 (1989).

Accordingly;

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Plaintiff's civil rights complaint be **DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE** as frivolous under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e) until such time as the Heck conditions are met.

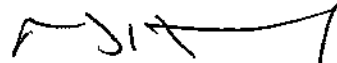
## OBJECTIONS

Under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b), parties aggrieved by this recommendation have ten (10) business days from service of this Report and Recommendation to file specific, written objections with the Clerk of Court, unless an extension of time is granted under Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b). A party may respond to another party's objection within ten (10) days after being served with a copy thereof. Counsel are directed to furnish a courtesy copy of any objections or responses to the District Judge at the

time of filing.

A party's failure to file written objections to the proposed findings, conclusions and recommendations set forth above, within ten (10) days after being served with a copy shall bar that party, except upon grounds of plain error, from attacking, on appeal, the proposed factual findings and legal conclusions that were accepted by the district court and that were not objected to by the aforementioned party. See Douglas v. U.S.A.A., 79 F.3d 1415 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc).

**THUS DONE AND SIGNED**, in chambers, in Shreveport, Louisiana, on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2006.



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**MARK L. HORNSBY**  
**UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**